

The Dordt College Diamond

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October 30, 1997

Volume XLI, Number 4

Hard work results in a pleasurable performance by Koning, Smit

by Sean Gregg
Staff Reporter

Months of practice culminated in the B.J. Haan Auditorium last night. Ryan Smit and Gena Koning gave their recital at 7:30.

Smit said that the music was chosen last spring. This summer was spent learning and practicing the music. They "polished 'em up this fall".

Since Smit and Koning were the only two that had signed up for vocal recitals they decided to do theirs together. Smit is a junior, and junior recitals last only half the time of a senior recital. Koning is a communication major and was not required to do a full recital.

As is common in a recital of two people, the opening and closing songs were duets while the middle songs were solos. The duo chose to begin with "Amor's apprende," a light piece. The duo split the time before the intermission. Koning sang a piece by Joaquin Rodrigo. She chose this piece because she "had Spanish in high school and it was easy to memorize". She liked this particular selection because it was "fiery and fun." Koning used this piece to "give some flair" to the performance.

Smit featured a piece by Heinrich



Andy Stravers

Gena Koning and Ryan Smit spent many hours in preparation for Tuesday's performance.

Schutz to "break up the recital for the audience. This was accomplished with the help of a harpsichord and two violins. He chose a piece by French composer Gabriel Fuare because it was "exquisitely expressive". The

recital closed with a light duet from "Sid the Serpent Who Wanted to Sing". Koning played the teacher in this excerpt from the children's opera while Smit took on the role of student. As Smit had to work to keep from laughing throughout the piece, it was evident that both performers had enjoyed the work that went into the recital and the outcome of that work.

The successful recital was the result of a great deal of hard work. Though the songs were chosen only last spring, both Koning and Smit have been studying music with their current instructors for five semesters. Both performers are "glad that it's over," but say they "will miss it." Koning added that "it never ends": she starts auditions for

her one act play soon. Koning and Smit enjoyed working on the recital and were pleased with the outcome.

Endorphin's still got it together

by Aren Roukema
Staff Reporter

Endorphin isn't breaking up just yet. The rumor that has been spreading around campus that Endorphin is going to call it quits has some foundation, but hope is still alive and thriving that the band will stick together.

First some facts about the band for the freshmen crowd.

The band is composed of Matt Breems on bass, Evan Jasper on guitar, and Bob Taylor IV on drums. Claiming a home town of Willmar, Minnesota, all three go to Dordt; Taylor is a junior, Jasper a sophomore and Breems a freshman. The band has been together for three years and 60

to look like Elvis." Despite their evident off-the-wall humor, the members of Endorphin approach band life seriously. They want to challenge people in their faith through their music, along with providing quality Christian entertainment.

Their show on Friday, October 24, with Skillet at the Community Center showed why they have such a dedicated

fan base at Dordt. Energy flowed from the stage as the band's cohesiveness shone through. Endorphin seemed to be a very together band, with a lot of potential for the future. Yet, there are concerns over

that future. Breems admits that the problem lies with him. He's in two bands at present: Endorphin and a band called Beowulf, which really started for fun, but over the summer played a lot of big shows. "Right

now there is a good chance for either Endorphin or Beowulf to record and go touring next year," says Breems. "So now I have to decide which I want to do it with. Right now Endorphin is really quite together. We're all really praying that God will show us what the right decision for us is."

Endorphin is looking to God to guide them in whatever decision they make. "We come at it from the perspective that we're servants of God and that He has a perfect plan and no matter what it is, if it means Endorphin breaking up and our hopes being postponed or shattered, then that's what it means," says Taylor. "Our prayer is that we'd accept God's will wholeheartedly because He knows a lot more than we do."

"We covet the prayers of others," says Jasper. "We know that God is powerful in prayer. If I know that more people are praying for us I am more content knowing that God is working with us. We thank everyone for their prayers."

Endorphin isn't breaking up just yet and we can hope they never will.

World mission seminar opportunity

On a beach in Connecticut stands a charming estate tended by the Sisters of Mercy, and on this estate for two weeks in January people from all over the globe congregate for the Overseas Ministry Study Center's seminars on world missions. For two weeks they have a life-impacting experience.

There is something about debating over coffee with an old man from Denmark, a shy girl from Myanmar and a ex-apartheid fighter/seminary student from Tanzania that opens your eyes.

And then comes the challenging discussion times. Students from Dordt often comment that they never realized before how conservative and in the minority they are when it comes to their beliefs. Though the discussions are demanding with no easy answers, they are also very rewarding.

But the main reason for going is the unforgettable privilege of close contact with many third-world missionaries and seminararians who have a wide breadth of experience and confessional stances.

Call Professor Kobes for details or watch for information in the Today.



PICTURE POLL: REACTING TO RACISM

Does the Dordt or Sioux Center community have a problem with racism? If so, how does it affect us?



Khai Huynh
Freshman
Midway City, CA
Yes, racism is everywhere. If you look at a person and see he is a guy, that's okay, but if you see that he's a Vietnamese guy, that's racism.

Don Prosper
Sophomore
Dominica

Well, if you go to the store, people look at you if you're different. They're just not used to seeing different people around.



Heather Bajema
Junior
Sioux Center, IA

I think there is, but I couldn't tell you why. There's not very many minorities here at all.

Jerry Klompemaker
Senior
Brampton, ONT

You're not confronted with it here. It's mostly a WASP community. Since it's not much of an issue, we tend to think it's not here.



Printing policy enforced

by Brady Fopma
Staff Reporter

Here's the scenario: it's late and you've just finished typing your 32-page paper on the history of the Dordt College Commons. You decide to take a break and check your e-mail. Surprisingly enough, the screen displays, "You have mail." Your curiosity is piqued. Who could have possibly sent you e-mail? Your mom? Your high school English teacher? Your lost Maltese puppy, perhaps? BUZZ! It's nothing but another message from Computer Service informing you that 64 pages have been printed without being picked up and that your library account is being charged a dime a piece for each of them. Grrr... there goes next semester's tuition.

The previous situation may sound familiar to you if you have ever printed pages to the laser or inkjet printers located in the computer control room. If you failed to pick them up, intentionally or not, an email message showed up on your screen sooner or later. However, many students fail to realize why this method of charging individuals for printouts is in effect.

Computer Services' policy regarding this matter has always been simple—reduce waste and promote good stewardship by providing students with 50 free laser or 25 inkjet printouts at the beginning of the year and giving them unlimited access to the dot matrix printers. According to Gerry Mouw, Computer Education Assistant, "It is not the desire of the Computer Center to make money on printing. It is rather to promote good stewardship of the printing resources we have here on campus. Since the implementation of paying for laser printouts, we have gone from literally barrels of trashed printouts per day to no more

than 2 small computer paper-sized boxes per semester. It makes everyone conscious of where and how much they are printing."

This year, however, the implementation of the policy has changed. Instead of students showing their I.D. cards when they print papers as they did last year, they must now carry a punch card that allows them 50 laser printouts or 25 inkjet pages. This change was brought about by a newly installed printer in the library. Instead of spending time training staff in the library to use last year's computer-based page decrement system, it seemed easier to supply students with simple punch cards. Through use of this method, students will always know how many remaining pages they have to be printed.

Another new development in the implementation of this policy is that students' library accounts are charged ten cents for every page they do not pick up. Last year, students were charged after their initial 50 pages had been spent. However, with use of the on-line computer system last year, it was much easier to decrement copies without the students being present to supply a punch card. "Instead of placing unpaid charges on their accounts here, we are doing it through the library system for convenience sake," said Mouw. "All the data is there. It is listed as a printout charge on their library account."

The biggest lesson Dordt students should learn from the matter is this: although the implementation of last year's printout policy has changed, the policy itself has remained untouched. Computer Services isn't out to make a quick buck through the new method; rather they merely wish to minimize waste—a policy of stewardship which we, as Christian students, should support.

Student Forum members work overtime

by Kevin Maas
Student Forum
Press Secretary

The month of October has been a busy time for Student Forum, so busy that this update didn't even make it into the last issue of the Diamond. With the Tri-State weekend pushing three meetings into the last four weeks, your representatives have been doing a lot of work in order to keep up.

The most noticeable accomplishment was the long-overdue placement of recycling bins in all student residences. The nifty blue bins, complete with an informative sticker featuring Dordt's new logo, should help make stewardship easier and more convenient for years to come.

Less visible were the ongoing efforts of the Student Forum to investigate various problems on campus. Discussions are currently in progress over how the college should observe Good Friday; a solution may be ready

for this spring, but don't count on it. As usual, any ideas anyone may have for any issue can be sent to sforum@dordt.edu, deposited in the suggestion box opposite the ATM machine in the SUB or relayed to one of your friendly student representatives.

An inquiry into the lack of Windows95-capable computer stations on the eastern end of campus has turned up problems beyond the control of Computer Services. A shipment of computers including several earmarked for Southview has been delayed for the last couple months. The selling company continues to insist that everything is on the way, but so far only the monitors have arrived. Hopefully other important parts will show up before crunch time at the end of the semester.

One area of perennial complaint is the sauna-like atmosphere in parts of the library. The hard-working Dordt Maintenance staff spent much

of the summer installing a new ventilation system, but even their solution has its limitations. Due to structural details, certain places in the library are difficult to properly ventilate, and operational parameters on the new system prevent it from working efficiently while the outside temperature is still mild. However, as things get colder, the library should become more comfortable.

Thank you to everyone who gave blood this week. The blood bank was very happy with the number of people who volunteered to give the gift of life. In an unofficial competition, our blood drive numbers soundly trounced Northwestern's blood-giving record, drawing from twenty more students, but in only two days as opposed to the four spent at the campus of our Orange City friends.

The Student Forum asks you to always remember this generic slogan—Student Forum works for you!

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The *Diamond* is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond. Any letters, comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be signed and received before 5:00pm the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue. Send contributions to:

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Free Press: Mr. and Mrs. College—Too much pressure...

by Sarah Walsh
Columnist

I often have a conversation with others that goes something like this: how are you, how are classes, roommates, dating anyone? To which I respond with my usual: alright, still have that paper that was due last month, besides the fact that they continually borrow my toothbrush without asking—ok, and no. The only follow up question, with good intentions, seems to be: why not? This demand for an explanation is frustrating, and it works only to draw attention to that one area of my life.

There seems to be a definite extreme that is humored on our campus, the need to be married by grad. Senior shuffle, anyone? The opposite extreme is the idea that we should not date while at college. Both extremes have their faults. Why is it that normality is directly related to whether or not one is dating?

The rationale that many of us give about dating at Dordt

is, "the selection at home isn't so great, so I had better find someone here." We need to stop limiting God. In essence we are telling God that the only place a suitable mate can be found is at college.

If one holds to the opposite extreme, that limits God also, saying a suitable mate cannot be found anywhere on Dordt's campus. In rebuke of extreme #1, our calling in life is not to get married—we students must stop thinking of marriage as self-actualization, or finally being fulfilled as the line from Jerry Maguire suggests, "you complete me."

How can that line be said to anyone but God? If you are waiting for another person to complete who you are, you will be waiting for quite a while. Beware that idols are often made out of our relationships and we end up worshipping the one we are dating.

While we are here, we should not be striving for the perfect spouse, but seeking God's calling in our lives. At the same time, there are biblical

reasons for marriage. One is because God can use us better when yoked with someone else, another is if we are too weak to withstand temptation when unmarried. Paul tells us that to be married is good, but to be single is better. God created them male and female, he created them, and in that light, the Jerry Maguire line works. Male and female are two pieces to a puzzle, they were meant to be together.

I just want us to think. No one should be here just to get married—that is wrong. Simultaneously, dating is good, it is creational. There are right and wrong ways to do it. Respect the other person. Don't make them into an idol. Take dating seriously, it is a prerequisite for marriage. Set physical boundaries early. Most of all, take it slow—it's one of the most important decisions you will ever make. The mistake of choosing too quickly is a mistake you will deal with the rest of your life.

Global Observatory: Creational Stewardship

by Dirk Zwart
Columnist

I had the unique opportunity of visiting Au Sable Institute this summer and wished I lived there. Au Sable is a satellite campus to any Christian Environmental Science Department. During my brief visit, I saw first hand what it was like to live with people who have conviction for what they believe. The five minute prayer before lunch pleaded for forgiveness for all those who unknowingly or without care destroyed the creation each day because they had no sense of stewardship. It seemed harsh as I sat and listened, but it was not wrong. I was listening to someone who really cared for our world which belongs to God.

I've never considered myself an environmentalist; not everyone can be, but we can all be conscientious stewards. My family has an organic garden; we compost, and we recycle or reuse more than we throw out. Remember the Owl that said "Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute?" Take a look around you at Dordt College. We have the new recycling bins on campus. Are you using them?

People smirk at a club name like SHAMAR, but do you really know what they are doing? It is not a group of crazed tree huggers, but a group that promotes stewardship. Some people may have heard about the water sprinkler panic. It was not a war against the Maintenance Department, but a few students concerned that we were pumping water to irrigate the grass while it was raining. This unsteadwardly action was corrected upon mention. How many more things like this could change if we could just open our mouths and voice our concerns. Did you know that all the paper collected in the recycling bins in the computer center

still ends up in the garbage?

My little sister visited Dordt this weekend on a campus visit day. She was appalled that her first meal here was served to her on styrofoam. This product should not be used by any organization that cares one bit for the environment. The process of making it and its detrimental effects after it is thrown "away" would make a stoic cry. Why can't we use paper cups and plates or just wash a few more dishes? My sister ate her meals with me for the rest of her visit fearing she would be forced to use more styrofoam. Some people are really concerned about this and do not purchase items with styrofoam packaging.

In Canada milk jugs have a 25¢ deposit on them. You rarely see anyone throw them out. Some don't because of the deposit, others because it is wasteful, but in Sioux Center I see dumpsters just full of these space-occupying jugs. Why do you throw them out? Do we have a shortage of plastic in our landfills? Are you too lazy to separate your garbage? Are you ignorant to the damage you are doing, or does living a relaxed life in middle-incomeville make you think that you can just throw away what you want without harming the environment.

Maybe you are not an environmental studies major, and caring for the environment is at the bottom of your concerns. However, this is something that everyone needs to be involved with. Integrate recycling into your lesson plans; let yourself be an example to your students. We at Dordt must also model good stewardship for each other. I wish I could give you the "make decisions and follow your convictions" speech from "Dead Poet's Society," but I can give you the words of environmental activist Peter Garrett: "How can we sleep, while our beds are burning?"

FOCUS : A heartfelt cry for help

by Jamie Stoy
Columnist

Colossians 3:5,8 - (NIV) "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander and filthy language from your lips."

Philippians 4:8 - (NIV) "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—Think about such things."

Lord, my soul cries from a grave; from a death I lead myself to die. Lord, I walked willingly to the slaughter house, convinced it was the way to go, and now amidst the pain, I cry out to You again.

Lord, what makes my heart wander like a sheep that's gone astray? What has become of steadfast faith and clinging to You each day? Why do I lie fallow in this coffin of stone, telling myself I'm alive and feeling only emptiness inside? Lord Jesus, my Savior, the One who crushed the tomb I so insistently try to rebuild, take this heart and raise it up to You.

I don't want to be jealous or proud, walking with calm assurance on a foundation of sand. I want to kill the self that enchains me in beliefs that I can do it on my own, that I can build my own road and find my own way.

Jesus, take me up to You; shield me, protect me, give me strength to stand for You and not fall for this world. I run to You now and bury my kisses on the hem of your robe, watching my tears fall on nail-scarred feet. My Lord Jesus, the One who

embraces me, forgives me and loves me, let my heart beat for You; let my footsteps hold Your Name; let my will be Yours and let me die as I live—for You.

Help me to keep my mind stayed on You. Let my thoughts be pure, representational of a child of the King. Lift me up in my daily walk, as I stumble and fall.

Give me strength as the temptations of lust, greed and haughtiness saunter before me. Teach me to hate them as You do and run away from them as a child flees from phantoms. Help me to bury deep in the coffin of death anger, malice, slander and filthy language, leaving no stone to mark the grave.

Give me a spirit of truth and honesty to my brothers and sisters in You and to those who don't know You. Help me guard my mouth from speaking lies or spreading dissension. Let me rather encourage and uplift others, speaking in honesty or not speaking at all.

Lord Most High, teach me to love honor, to cling to purity and think on praiseworthy things. Light the fire of passion in my heart to ardently love that which You love and to vehemently hate that which You hate. Create in me a terrible loathing for sin and an intense compassion for the sinner.

Guide my steps, Jesus, in Your truth and in the path of righteousness. I surrender my mind to You, Lord. In all that I think, in all that I say and in all that I do, let my mind be stayed on You. Amen.

Psalms 25:4-5 - (NIV) "Show me Your ways; O Lord, teach me Your paths; guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior and my hope is in You all day long."



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Letters to and from the Community

Editorial: Searching for Solutions

I want to preface this editorial by saying that I write this with sincere humility. I realize that innocent people have been accused by an article in the last issue. As editor, I take the full load of responsibility, even though none has been affixed to me. I pledged myself to challenging the community, not to tearing it down.

Allow me a brief comment on the article. I believe that it contained an appropriate message. There is a problem that exists between Dordt College students and Sioux Center Public High School students on homecoming night.

Moving past how the message was conveyed, let us be sure that we acknowledge the problem exists. I challenge the community to abandon sitting high upon what has been accomplished and to focus on the future and what still needs to be done.

Forget the Rec Center, TePaske Theater and the like because they mean nothing if we do not press forward. For too long the anti-community activities that have become associated with homecoming have passed by without comment. It is the lack of condemnation by the whole community that results in the article that was published.

Crossing denominations, both Reformed Christians and Christian Reformed Christians imply by their names that they

are reforming in the active sense

With this in mind and the problem set before us, let us as a community look to finding solutions. I applaud the efforts of the high school student council as well as campus security. Steps are being made. But these steps have been made in isolation from each other.

Last year, I remember when a mustard seed plan for a multi-ethnic Sunday celebration was developed during Tom Sine's visit to campus. Sine's message was that what worked in the past may not work in today's society. Along these daring lines, we need solutions that bring the whole of Sioux Center Public High School into understanding with the whole of Dordt College.

Here's a radical idea: hire high school students and pair them with campus security on homecoming night to both patrol Dordt's campus and provide security at the game.

Now it is your turn; the time for critical examination is now. Now is the time not only for community but also for communication. Send your ideas for solutions to DC Box 116 or email them to diamond@dordt.edu. Thank you for your help in building community.

May this have been,
All to the Glory of God

Jon Postma

The Sioux Center Community School District and members of the Dordt College staff have maintained and improved working relations and cooperation between our two educational institutions and with the community at large.

In that context, a couple of items need clarification regarding a recent editorial. First, the community bonfire and any subsequent caravan done in pickup trucks is not sponsored, supervised or approved by the school.

Secondly, I beg to differ with Mr. Van Dyk. Personally I am confident that most parents and members of the community, including our school district, do not encourage nor condone any illegal, dangerous or inappropriate behavior from anyone. To that minority of individuals in violation of the law, they should be arrested and prosecuted... period.

Our student council worked hard during the week to discourage students from participating in these activities. The context of the announcement by the student body president was that, "If you attend the bonfire or ride around in any pickups, please be careful and safe." She also specifically reminded students that "Dordt's campus is private property and high school students are not allowed."

It is our hope that Dordt and Sioux Center Community High School will continue to work toward a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect.

Ray Roseland
High School Principal

Focus on the real enemy

As a person who is frequently caught in the middle of the 'townie vs. Dordt Wart' war, I feel obligated to respond to the story written by Ms. Paula Treick regarding the annual townie uprising on homecoming eve.

I am proud to have a son who is a senior at the community high school. While Sioux Center and Orange City have much in common, both being college towns, there also seems to be the common problem of locals vs. college students, perhaps with an underlying theme of church vs. public schooled. Sioux Center's community high school is predominately Reformed Church students who largely decide to attend Northwestern College after high school.

My son was one of the persons who organized the bonfire, and several days before the event, he told me he was aware that security was going to be tightened up at the college. The students knew there would be few students on campus and the entrances would be blocked to through traffic. As for the statement made by Mr. James Van Dyk, I truly doubt that parents would encourage their youth to get involved in a distressing situation that could result in police action or even injuries.

If any Dordt people have ever ventured uptown on Sunday nights, they would be well aware

of the pick-up bed riding. It seems to be a pastime that is at worst, dangerous, and at best, a good time for teenagers. I'm sure even some college students have had the experience. Riding in the back of a pick-up is not illegal—if it were, I suppose our local police would put a stop to it.

The Dordt community also has to realize that they have just opened up a wonderful athletic facility with memberships offered to the 'townie' community. There doesn't seem to be a law against driving onto campus, as long as speed limits and parking regulations are observed. I've been told by my son that campus security is, shall we say, a bit overzealous with their enforcement of the rules to those who are not of the Dordt persuasion. Unfortunately, this only creates more tension with the two opposing parties.

My son was one of the twenty who ran through, and he said he did not witness anything described in the article. I don't believe any harm was done by their running through; however, I apologize if any senses were offended by the sights and sounds.

I just wish we could all understand that as Christians, we are all fighting the same war, on the same side. Let's not get confused as to who the enemy is.

Colleen Van Berkum

Letter to the Community: See James 3

The TePaske Theatre, where the Dordt Theater Department has just finished performing its production of Hobson's Choice, is jointly owned and used by the Sioux Center High School, Dordt College and the city of Sioux Center. The ongoing maintenance and the scheduling of events in the facility is governed by a board that includes members of each of these organizations. Cooperation and good relationships between these three organizations are essential.

Some time ago, a community-wide committee began working to upgrade equipment at the theatre. Through this cooperative effort, the lighting control system is presently being replaced with a new system that has become the standard for the theater industry. Our department depends on the smooth functioning of the TePaske Theater to maintain the quality of its productions, so this kind of cooperation is vital to our program.

More recently, Dave

Krayhling, a teacher at Sioux Center High School, and I began exploring ways to more effectively maintain the equipment at the theater. Maintenance has been a problem. With a large number of groups using the theatre, it's difficult to keep the technical equipment in good operating condition. Since the high school and Dordt are two of the major users, it became obvious that the best way for us to maintain the equipment was to do so cooperatively. We decided that a Dordt student would be asked to help maintain lighting equipment at the theater and also to teach high school students how to maintain and use the equipment.

At one point in our discussions, Mr. Krayhling said to me, "It will be good for students from both schools to get together. Dordt people need to learn that we're not 'just a bunch of heathens' here at Sioux Center High School, and our kids need to know that Dordt students have something to offer too."

The effort at cooperation in the theatre was evidence that bridges between town and gown were being built, and that fortifications between the two were being removed. The importance of "community" that we talk about on campus was being realized, and it was a sense of community that embraced more than just our campus. There was reason to cheer. Or so it seemed until the recent article on "townies" appeared in the *Diamond*.

It seemed odd to me to find in the same issue of the *Diamond* an article calling us to study from a service perspective, another lauding the work of volunteers helping disaster victims in North Dakota, and this third one showing a sneering attitude towards the people in our own community.

The very term "townies" has little to do with serving or helping our fellow human beings. Instead, it smacks of a divisive, supercilious attitude. Why not drop the word from your vocabu-

lary?

In light of efforts at cooperation going on between high school and college administrators, it also seemed odd—vicious may be more accurate—to suggest that Sioux Center High School teachers and administrators were actually encouraging attacks on Dordt's campus.

Those who accuse local parents and "the whole town" of "encouraging this" pickup riding activity seem to forget that local merchants annually donate thousands of dollars in support of the college, and that many of those same merchants also sent their children to the local high school. The local community is not mobilizing against the campus. Let's stop suggesting that kind of nonsense.

Divisive language and misinformation help no one. Let's encourage cooperation efforts in our community to grow.

John Hofland

I am writing because recently there has been quite an uproar in regards to Paula Treick's article about the townie uprising from the last *Diamond* publication. I have heard many negative things about this particular article and its accusations. After being witness to the weekend in question, I feel that Paula could have been far harsher in her article as to what actually took place over our Tri-state and the high school's homecoming weekend.

I came to Dordt for the sense of community that we have especially on our campus. I think that in a town this small it must be hard to reprimand people you may know but it is important that it is done. By not responding in an appropriate manner to the displays that have taken place it is in essence condoning those students' actions.

I think that as a community this issue should be dealt with before someone is seriously injured. To not acknowledge those students' actions and instead focus on Paula's article is wrong. We need to stop attacking each other and look at the deeper problem that needs addressing.

Allison Kersbergen

Discrimination through ignorance

I was struck by the article in the last issue of the Diamond in which an anonymous author challenged us with some examples of prejudice here at Dordt College. However, I regret to say that I was neither shocked nor surprised when the author recounted what some cross-cultural students told her. Prejudice is a problem at Dordt—not angry, in your face, cross-burning discrimination, but a more subtle, insidious kind of discrimination.

Even from my perspective as a Dutch-American, Northwest Iowan, I have seen the types of subtle prejudice Dordt students hold. I know some people, as most of you probably do, who openly display racial prejudice. However, that is not the type of discrimination that I and the author in the last issue are worried about. Many of us on campus have unconscious prejudice that often can hurt people just as much as blatant persecution, while the whole time we are unaware that we possess and prejudice, and in fact we talk fervently about the importance of racial reconciliation.

I know that this prejudice exists from my observations of others and because I have done it myself. I have several friends at Dordt from other countries, and I value their friendships incredibly. But, when I meet people I do not know from other races or backgrounds, I begin to notice subtle forms of prejudice creeping into my thoughts and sometimes my actions.

For example, I supervised a summer maintenance crew here

on campus for two summers. Several of the people on these crews were foreign students who could only work at Dordt for the summer. I freely talked to them and enjoyed getting to know them, but whenever I had to send a couple of people on a task when I was not going along, I would always give instructions to the American. I never did that intentionally and was not even aware of it until a few months later when I was thinking about racial issues. Even now, I do not know if I did it because of race, nationalism, language or a combination of these factors. But, I know that without consciously deciding to do anything, I acted in a prejudiced way.

A second example came from my experiences last summer on the Pew Younger Scholars Program at Notre Dame. One of my suitemates on the program was African-American, and the first time I met him, I wondered to myself if he had been admitted to the program because he was a minority. I never expressed this thought out loud, and I immediately banished it from my head. It was a groundless notion because he was a very intelligent person, and there was not even any place to identify your race on the admission form. Yet, for some reason, I had these thoughts anyway.

At this point, you may be thinking that these examples are really not that bad. After all, I did not verbally express any racial bias and I was a friend of all these people. However, these example do show the way preju-

dice can sneak into our thoughts and actions without our realizing that they are there. And that is where I want to echo what the author said in the last issue: each of us needs to reexamine ourselves and our thoughts to discover if we really are ready to live in a racially diverse community.

This topic also gives me an opportunity to repeat a message that I presented in my chapel speech at the beginning of the year: get off campus. For Dordt students, studying off campus is often the only way to be immersed in a different culture and to meet many people from different races. When I was in Washington, D.C., I worked in a law office with five African-Americans and one Hispanic. I interacted with them on a daily basis and developed close relationships with them. When I showed up at the office every day, not having any bias moved from being something I talked about in class to something that I had to work on in real life.

However, if you cannot fit studying off campus into your schedule, do not let that be an excuse for ignoring people who are different from you. Much to many students' disbelief, there are opportunities in Sioux Center to have cross-cultural experiences. For example, Amistad Christiana, a Hispanic ministry, meets every Sunday. And there are people from different cultures on campus whom you can get to know. As I said in my speech, Sioux Center is not a cultural mecca, but it is not a walled community either.

The author of last issue's article was right when he or she said that it sounds trite to say "accept people for their worth as image bearers of God and have no other basis." It is the correct thing to say but I disagree slightly with the author's statements. The author implied that people in this community consciously decide to think about whether or not they can accept someone from a different race. I don't think this is the case. I believe the vast majority of Dordt students and people in the community are consciously committed to equality. However, when it comes to casually dealing with people of a different race, we unconsciously ignore them and stick with people like ourselves. I don't know if this is because of fear of the unknown, worry about what others might think, or some other factor.

Saying that we are committed to racial equality takes no real commitment, no questioning of ourselves or our community, and no true desire to change. We can all remain happy with the way we are, telling ourselves that we have no prejudice, without really knowing; or we can stretch ourselves, examine ourselves, and discover what we really believe. Part of that should be searching out cross-cultural experiences—off-campus or in Sioux Center. You can say whatever you want, but unless you make an effort to act on what you say, you may be fooling yourself and, even without knowing it, hurting others.

Nathaniel Zylstra

Living like servants

Two weekends ago, "Parent's Weekend," I was busy working with the AMOR car-wash. I am the volunteer coordinator for this program. For those who don't know what AMOR is, it is a group of Dordt students who travel to a different country to do mission/service work for two weeks over Christmas break.

What I witnessed on this Saturday really struck me. I was walking into the Centre Mall, where we hold our car wash, to get some warm water from the janitor's room. I met up with a couple, whom I had seen talking to one of our AMOR kids, Tamara Heibult. I introduced myself, assuming they were her parents, which I found they were. After a brief conversation they told me they were looking for the restrooms to change their clothes so they could help us wash cars. I believe it was at this point my eyes teared up. My thought was this: "Here are two people who have made the long trip from New Mexico. They must be tired; it's a beautiful day; they could be enjoying a coffee together while they waited for Tamara to be done working. Instead, they were going to help us wash cars!" Later, back outside, when Tamara came up to me and told me what her parents were going to do, she said, "I love my parents, I love my parents."

For the next few hours Tamara's parents, very humbly and quietly, with smiles on their faces, washed cars.

On that warm autumn Saturday, I felt like I had seen the love of Jesus in person. The Heibults' demonstrated to me what being a servant is all about. God bless them.

Dan Altana

The Decay Of Community

"Christians in a technological and secular civilization need the ability to distinguish sharply, to think critically, and to judge wisely. Dordt College must provide the kind of insight that enables Christians to carry out their tasks effectively in a complicated world. So, such insight is not merely theoretical." This quote comes directly from the "Principles and Purposes" section in the Dordt mission statement. Certain things—some recent, some over a number of years—have come to my attention which lead me to believe that Dordt is paying lip service to the very central theme of their defining statement. How can I say this? Let me explain.

Enter in this scenario. A student at Dordt was in a position of leadership. It was rumored that he or she had been purchasing alcohol for minors under him or her. Dordt strongly suggested that this person resign from his or her post in order for the college to save face. Dordt wanted to make sure that if this was in fact true, then it would be known that this person was reprimanded. This person did nothing wrong, but somehow, somewhere a nasty rumor started

about him or her. I pose this question: Is this the insight that Dordt wants to provide for its students? I certainly hope not, but it struck me when I realized that I wanted to do the same thing. I hesitated to put my name at the bottom of this article because I feared that it might make me lose face. I feared the negative consequences of taking a stand for something that I believe in, and I still do, but I feel that when my Christian brother is wronged, I should stand up for him or her, no matter what the consequence. To me, my Christian brother is more important to me than saving face.

Another scenario. A student at Dordt, a freshman, was caught with a drug, marijuana, in his dorm room. Dordt's responded by kicking this student out of college, and told him that he could return after he had entered, and completed, a drug-rehabilitation program. Another eight students were caught in another room, with a different drug, alcohol. Dordt gave them level threes and told them not to do it again. Both drugs are illegal for the patrons to have, and both do similar things to the human body. Why

the differing treatment? To save face. Marijuana looks worse, and if anyone found out that there was a druggie on campus, then Dordt's reputation would have been hurt. Students are "supposed" to drink alcohol in college, and after all, Dordt has got to appease those Canadians somehow, so they decide to give these guys a second chance. Don't get me wrong; I am extremely grateful for the second chance, but shouldn't a community reach out to a brother in love instead of telling him that once he has straightened out his life he can come back? Does Christ tell us that we cannot come to him until we have all our problems straightened out?

These are all things that happened, some to me, some to people I know. I am sure there are more. It is time that Dordt started to provide some real insight into what a true community is. Is it imperative that a community do whatever it takes to save face, even though they might be hurting a few lowly individuals in the process? I hope not.

Jeff Vandermeer



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Theft

Most of us have seen ads in the Dordt College campus news that read, "LOST or STOLEN: green bike with black stripes, taken from East Campus. Whoever took it, put it back in racks by C3—no questions asked. It's not yours, it's mine so give it back!!!" No one appreciates having their property "borrowed" (or stolen), so why do people take what isn't theirs?

Are we victims of the "Generation X" mindset where everything belongs to everybody? Are we, on a campus we call "Christian" doing all we can to promote a feeling of unity and respect among our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ? According to college Director of Career Development, Ron Rynders, theft on campus results from "just a real casual attitude toward somebody else's property." Vice President of Academic Affairs, Curtis Taylor, agrees. He said the "casual" attitude begins when students trash campus with gum wrappers and cigarette butts. But the attitude results in disrespect for other people's property in general.

How many thieves does it take to ruin the security on this campus? "Only one," said Rynders yet not all of the thefts should be attributed to Dordt students.

Sioux Center police have uncovered two theft rings in Sioux Center in the past year in which several bicycles and other property stolen from Dordt were recovered. In fact, most of the theft that occurs on campus is of the "borrowing" nature. Take, for instance, theft of property from the Commons. Jim Calkhoven of Carrie Foods, which has been feeding Dordt students for over twenty years, says he and his staff have had such things as the Christmas tree and the Hawaiian mannequin "borrowed" and returned. Other things such as Christmas decorations or plates and trays from the Commons are simply taken and never returned, said Calkhoven.

The problem is so prominent that the college Defender includes theft from the Commons in its rules, stating, "the removal or possession of dishware, silverware, or other property from the dining hall is considered to be theft." Carrie foods forks out over \$2000 per year just

to replace the table service. Calkhoven said the annual cost of replacing stolen items is tacked onto the price students pay for their meal plans.

In Exodus, God tells the Israelites in no uncertain terms the price to be paid for stealing: "A thief must certainly make restitution, but if he has nothing, he must be sold to pay for his theft."

How many students would be left on this campus if each of us were sold in restitution for what we had stolen? Rynders said many students don't realize that using a roommate's hair spray or cologne without asking is considered stealing. And what about that roll of toilet paper so craftily removed from the ladies room in the science building?

Establishing more rules won't help either, said Rynders. He would like students to live by rules that already exist in the Bible—"common sense, responsibility, accountability, I am my brother's keeper, righteousness, etc..." and "little bitty songs like 'Trust and Obey'—whatever happened to those?"

Taylor, agrees. He understands the frustration students struggle with when they know they can't trust their peers. "I think people can swallow it better if they think it's a bad guy from the outside and nobody from Dordt than if they find out it's one of their peers," said Taylor.

So let's weigh the pros and cons of our "borrowing" habits.

Con(s):

- Less trust among students and staff
- Stricter rules - and more of them
- Higher cost of living in order to replace stolen goods
- Reverting to worldly standards

Pro(s):

- "Hey, at least I don't have to walk to the library."

Am I my Brother's Keeper?

"Am I my brother's keeper?"
These famous words from the Cain and Abel story reflect more and more the mindset of Dordt students when it comes to respecting other people and their property. Like Cain, we tend to "look the other way" and not take responsibility for our actions. When it comes to showing Christian responsibility, some of us simply "don't make the grade."

Vandalism

Something just as bad as having your bike stolen is to have it but not be able to use it because someone has slashed the tires or removed the seat. Vandalism is a recurring trend on Dordt's Campus. Vandalism is also hard to define. On one hand it can be viewed as a response to something people are upset about, or it can be defined as a prank gone wrong or pushed too far. Much of it is unseen or is recognized as "normal use of Dordt's facilities"—such as the poor treatment of dorm rooms and bathrooms. Yet even this wouldn't be a big issue if students could "come up with a way to make everyone feel like they had some ownership (of their room or apartment)...and treat it with respect," said Vice President of Financial affairs Bernie De Wit.

Dordt has dealt with vandalism for many years. Recently the Dordt soccer field had been vandalized with some unknown chemical used to write the word "NORTHWESTERN" in the grass. Chris Nonhof, a senior at Dordt, said "Do the people that did that to our field really think we would believe Northwestern is a better school just because they carved it in our field?" Nonhof said the people who did that prank are childish and have a third grade mentality.

Vandalism is a hard thing to figure out. Why do people do it? Do they think they are making a statement, or



Andy Stravers

Until the snow flies, the soccer field stands as a temporary reminder that vandalism does not escape Dordt's campus.

Break-ins and Safety

Ignorance and irresponsibility seem to be the major causes for break-ins and other related incidents that have occurred on Dordt College's campus over the last five years.

Dordt College Dean of Students Curtis Taylor estimated that only 60 percent of students on campus lock their doors.

Taylor referred to the East Hall incident that occurred during the Thanksgiving break of 1995. Taylor said, "The situation could have been tragic. The intruder was definitely someone who knew what he was doing. He found an open window, climbed in, and went down a hallway until he found an unlocked door."

The incident Taylor made reference to was covered in the 1995 December issue of the Diamond. According to Diamond reporter Sonja Jongsma, "The female occupant of the room says she woke up because she was cold. She says she saw a male...kneeling beside her bed with her comforter over his knees."

The article said that the man got up and left but the woman was unable to identify him because it was dark. It went on to say, "The young woman and her R.A. later discovered that the man had been masturbating and had left semen on the floor and blankets." This incident was not recorded in the Dordt Defender because the female student had never been touched.

A second incident that occurred during the fall of 1995 also emphasizes the importance of locking doors. A Former East Hall Resident Assistant realized the importance of locking her door after a person entered into her room while she was not there. When she tried to get back in her room, the door was locked and a man eventually came out and said he was looking for a student on 'fourth floor.' The man eventually left. The

Resident Assistant discovered that her purse had been gone through, but nothing had been taken. The Sioux Center Police called the next day and told her that the man had been known for going into unlocked rooms in campus dormitories.

The R.A. said, "Lock your doors. Before the incident happened to me, I hardly ever locked my door. After that, no matter where I was or where I went, I faithfully locked my door." The former RA said the incident was not to be taken "lightly" and it "could have been a lot worse."

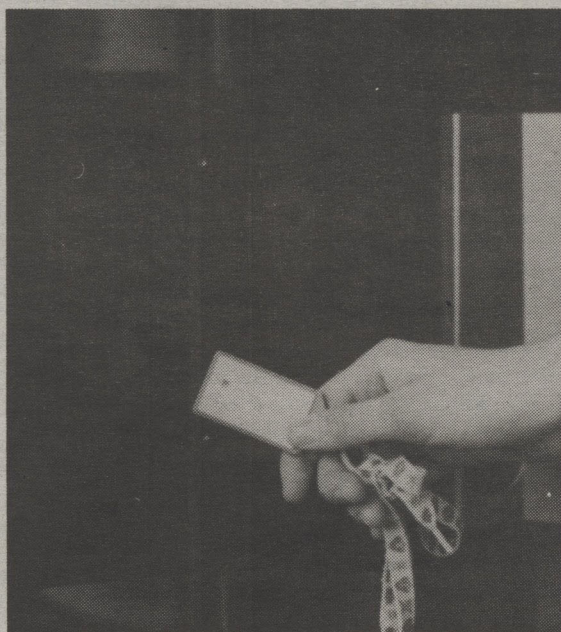
Career Development Director Ron Rynders said student responsibility is a major prevention tool to crimes on campus. Rynders said, "Crazy people exist in safe places. It is your responsibility to take precautions so you don't place yourself at risk." Rynders went on to say that many students have a false image of Dordt College. He said students should not blame others for their ignorance and that they "should not allow themselves to be put in dangerous situations."

Dordt is helping students stay out of dangerous situations by installing key-tag system door locks. Taylor said each student in

East, North and West Halls have been given gray security tags that they use to get into their buildings at night. Taylor said that the new security system has several components. He said each entry door has a sensor in it that will set off an alarm if the door is propped open or if a forced entry occurs.

A special feature of the locking system is a built-in logging system that records the student's name each time the tags are used. Taylor said the logging system will help if students ever need to be questioned about their whereabouts.

Curtis said, "All in all, I'm very happy with [the new system] and I want to see us as an institution begin to expand its use." Taylor said he would like to see the new locking system installed in Southview and East Campus too.



Andy Stravers

Key-tag door locks give added protection for dormitory residents.

they just trying to be "cool"? "Vandalism can be a reaction to something that someone sees as wrong or unfair," said Dr. Rick Eigenbrood, Professor of Psychology at Dordt college. Eigenbrood says it can also be a person's persons trying to find themselves by "trying on different hats" or trying to identify themselves as part of a certain group. He said they can also be trying to make a statement of disgust or state an opinion without being identified.

Vandalism hurts the campus in a variety of ways—economically and socially, as well as spiritually. President of Dordt College, Carl E. Zylstra, said when vandalism occurs it hurts the college socially in a variety of ways. Zylstra said that it hurts trust on campus. He said it also hurts the trust between two colleges in the example of the vandalism of the soccer field. Even though neither college knows who did it, it still hurts the relationship between the two colleges.

When asked about how he sees Dordt's problem of vandalism compared to that of other colleges our size, Zylstra said that "we compare very well with most colleges". He also said that the Dordt community has a high sense of camaraderie which keeps vandalism at a minimum. Zylstra said vandalism is not a large problem, but wonders why there should be any problems with van-

dalism at all.

Vandalism has hurt Dordt. Vandalism has even been masked as pranks. Whether or not the prankster is aware of it or not, some "pranks" do go wrong and end up destroying Dordt property. When asked about vandalism, Bernie De Wit said he sees an economic fall-out when vandalism occurs.

Chairs in numerous lecture halls have been removed from their stands over the years. De Wit said most people think it can be a harmless prank, but many people do not understand what it costs to put the chairs back. The person may not understand that Maintenance has to put a lot of over-time into putting the seats back. It also costs the school money since they have to replace the \$75 to \$100 chairs which wear out a lot quicker.

Just as theft by Dordt students on campus hurts morale among the student body, so vandalism of Dordt property by Dordt students breaks down community. "If it's someone within the community, it's kind of a 'slap-in-the-face' of community," said campus pastor Don Draayer.

One suggestion given to prevent vandalism and theft, and to promote overall safety, is to lock doors. "It only makes good sense to be secure," said Rynders, "It helps keep the weaker brother (in a sense) honest."

Accepting responsibility for actions

Dordt students want to be treated as adults. They want to decide for themselves when it's time to come home on a Friday night. They continually want improvements in the college's food service. They want respectable treatment regarding living conditions. Dordt students want responsibility.

Dean of Students Curtis Taylor wants them to have responsibility, as well. "Students need to take responsibility, first of all, for their own actions," said Taylor, who directs the college's security personnel. He added that students also need to take responsibility for others' actions.

He said there are times when a group of students breaks a rule and only one will get caught. That person is rarely willing to turn in the others in the group.

This raises the question "Am I my brother's keeper?"

"It's tough," Taylor said. "(But) I hope that if I were ever put in a situation where I would have to (turn someone else in) that I would have the courage and the knowledge of what was right to do."

But most college students don't. Another member of Dordt's Student Services, Ron Rynders, who heads the college's peer counseling program, has formulated the "Law of the Junior High." It says there is nothing worse than ratting on a friend. But that seems to be the law far beyond junior high.

However, not accepting responsibility has been a problem for thousands of years. When Jesus was on earth, He found this to be a problem. He said, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" (Matt. 7:3)

Today, Dordt students complain about not having enough light in a parking lot that was just paved after school started. But Taylor said two more lights have been added. That brings the light total to four lights around the lot each with 250 watts of power. Taylor said the effectiveness of the lights will soon be evaluated and corrected if needed.

In Southview, students have been waiting for Windows computers to be installed on the fourth floor. Computer Services' Justin Luth said they are waiting for new screens to be delivered. When the screens come, the computers will be put in. But in the meantime, the empty computer room in Southview has had to be locked because someone had been smoking in it.

"You hypocrite," Jesus said, "first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matt. 7:5). In other words, fix things at home before you say something is wrong next door.

Taylor implied a reduced role for security if people around Dordt would take responsibility. "That's why we have to have somebody (security) whose business it is to report things that they see, because other people are not going to do

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Women's soccer continues to roll

by Janel Kragt
Sports Writer

As playoffs approach, the women's soccer team is moving into position to pounce. Ranked fourth in the Great Plains Region last week, the Lady Defenders continue to improve their play and their record.

Dordt 1, Westmar 0

Strength won out in this tremendous game as Dordt slid past Westmar in the last three minutes of double overtime. Westmar, a nationally-known powerhouse in women's soccer, is ranked one spot below Dordt in the Great Plains Region. The two teams were very evenly matched, and neither team dominated play until the final stretch. The Lady Defenders were able to come away with the big win behind the goal of midfielder Heather Williams assisted by Kalie Gaskill.

Dordt 1, Mount St. Clair 0

The crowd of family and friends that gathered on Saturday of Parents' Weekend to witness the renowned Lady Defenders in action had no reason to be disappointed. Despite extremely windy conditions, the team gelled to put together a great game and a nice win. The Defenders dominated on the offen-



Andy Stravers

Sarah Vriend looks to get the ball to Sheila Jansma as the Lady Defenders down another opponent.

sive end of the field; compared to Mount St. Clair's six total shots on goal, Dordt ended the game with 32 shots. Williams put in the winning goal, unassisted.

Due to Williams' two successive game-winning goals, she was named Great Plains Independent Region Player-of-the-Week for the week of October 13-18. A junior midfielder from Edmonton, Alberta, Williams has brought her total number of goals to six for the year. The honor has been shared by two

other Dordt team members this season—Gaskill and Krista Krikke.

Dordt 2, St. Scholastica 0

Yet again, Dordt sent its opponent home scoreless as the ladies defeated St. Scholastica at home on Saturday. Williams came away with another goal and matching assist, while Krikke also booted one in for the Defenders.

Goalie Kristin Zomermaand had two saves. Dordt once more dominated offensive play with 32 shots on goal. Thus far, the Lady Defenders have outscored their opponents 55-8.

Editor's Note:

The Lady Defenders played in Orange City Wednesday against the Red Raiders. Capitalizing on a big first half, the women took the victory.

Williams started out the scoring with an assist from Gaskill. Sheila Jansma then scored twice, sticking in a corner kick and then a penalty kick.

After the 3-0 first half, Northwestern got on the board with a goal in the second. Gaskill then put Dordt back up by three with a goal. She was assisted by Erin Staal. The Red Raiders came back with another goal, but the Lady Defenders answered with a Krikke goal. Gaskill notched her second assist on the score.

Dordt took the 5-2 win, increasing its record to 13-2-1 with playoffs closing in. The women are also getting national attention with one vote in the latest NAIA national poll.

Volleyball winding down, won last three

by Craig Broek
Sports Writer

With only three matches left in the regular season, Coach Tom Van Den Bosch's Lady Defenders are tuning up for the post-season. Dordt went 3-2 in the last couple of weeks, with its biggest victory over NCAA Div. II ranked Wayne State.

Black Hills State 3, Dordt 0

The women opened on October 16 by hosting conference foe Black Hills State. The Lady Defenders put up a fight in game one before losing 15-13. Game two wasn't quite as close as Dordt came out on the bottom end of a 15-5 score.

Dordt attempted a furious comeback, but didn't succeed and lost game three and the match, 16-14. Alyssa Van't Hul and Mindy Boogerd each had eight kills in a losing effort.

Dordt 3, South Dakota Tech 1

The second match of the week saw Dordt again playing host to a conference foe, this time South Dakota Tech. Dordt had an easier time against the Hardrockers, coming away with a 3-1 victory in four games.

Boogerd and Karen Netz

had big nights, each netting 15 kills. Janna Van Donge also had four ace serves in the contest.

Mary 3, Dordt 1

The following night Dordt played host to the University of Mary. The Lady Defenders started out on the right foot, winning game one 15-11.

But that was as close as they would get as the U. of M. took the next three games, 15-10, 15-5 and 15-11. Netz had her second big game in a row with 19 kills, bringing her Parent's Weekend total to 34.

Dordt 3, Wayne State 2

Dordt opened the following week with a big victory over Wayne State in five games. It was back and forth in the first four games with each team winning a pair, forcing a deciding fifth game. Dordt took control and won the match, 15-5.

Boogerd led the attack with 22 kills, followed by Van Donge with 18 and Netz with 17. Netz also added four ace serves.

Dordt 3, Dakota State 0

Dordt followed up that huge performance with an easy victory three days later over conference foe Dakota State. The Lady Defenders made quick work of

the visitors, winning in three, 15-1, 15-4 and 15-6.

Boogerd and Netz led a balanced attack with seven kills each, followed by Trisha Brouwer with six and Van Donge with five. Brouwer also had four ace serves.

Season stats:

Netz continues to lead the way with 336 kills, followed closely by Boogerd with 294. Netz and Boogerd also are tied for the lead in ace serves with 36, and Colleen Evenhouse continues to lead the assist category with 1,074 on the season.

Editor's Note:

Dordt hosted another conference opponent Tuesday night when Huron came to town. The Lady Defenders were unwelcoming hosts to the Screaming Eagles (with a new nickname this year because of new school ownership) and topped Huron in three—15-5, 15-6 and 15-4.

Dordt heads into the final two weeks of the season with a 17-10 record overall and 4-2 in the SDIC. The women play Westmar at home tonight (Thursday). The last home game of the year is next Thursday when Sioux Falls visits campus.

Harriers run in just one meet

by Jeff Memmelaar
Sports Writer

The cross country teams have completed another step on the road to the conference meet. On October 18 the teams competed in the 4th Annual Mount Marty College Invitational.

The men's team finished third at the Invitational, while the women took second.

Jason De Weerd was the first to finish for Dordt, coming in fifth with a time of 26:59. He was followed by his brother Scott De Weerd, coming in at twelfth with a time of 27:33. Jeff Summerhays finished fifteenth with a time of 27:54. Coming in nineteenth with a time of 28:19 was Matt Oostra. Peter Simmons finished in 28:28 at twentieth.

"Summerhays was still recovering from an illness so you can expect his time to be quite a bit better at the conference meet," said Coach Ross Goheen. If the men can keep healthy for the conference meet, they have a shot at going to Nationals.

Heidi Bartholomew was the first finisher for Dordt, coming in at eighth in 20:27. Becky Van De

| Volleyball - 17-10 | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 9/3 | Dakota Wes. | 3-0 |
| 9/5-6 | Red Rai. Clas. | (2-2) |
| 9/10 | Briar Cliff | 3-1 |
| 9/13 | at Northwest | 1-3 |
| 9/17 | at Mt. Marty | 3-0 |
| 9/19-20 | Graceld. Tour. | (3-1) |
| 9/24 | at Dakota St. | 1-3 |
| 9/26-27 | NAIA Tourn. | (3-1) |
| 9/30 | at Dakota Wes. | 3-0 |
| 10/6 | at Sioux Falls | 0-3 |
| 10/8 | at Briar Cliff | 3-1 |
| 10/11 | Northwestern | 0-3 |
| 10/16 | Blk. Hills St. | 0-3 |
| 10/17 | SD Tech | 3-1 |
| 10/18 | Dor. Tor. Mary | 1-3 |
| 10/21 | Wayne State | 3-2 |
| 10/24 | Dakota State | 3-0 |
| 10/28 | Huron | 3-0 |
| 10/30 | Westmar | |
| 11/1 | at St. Mary's | |
| 11/4 | at Wayne State | |
| 11/6 | Sioux Falls | |
| Men's Soccer - 9-4-2 | | |
| 9/6 | at Viterbo | 0-2 |
| 9/13 | at Mart. Luth. | 2-0 |
| 9/17 | Bellevue | 0-1 |
| 9/20 | Nrthwst.(MN) | 5-0 |
| 9/23 | Nrthwst.(IA) | 2-1 |
| 9/26 | Kansas Wesl. | 2-1(OT) |
| 10/1 | at Avila | 1-1 |
| 10/2 | at Park | 0-2 |
| 10/4 | Univ. Of Mary | 1-0 |
| 10/6 | Martin Luth. | 3-0 |
| 10/11 | at Doane | 4-0 |
| 10/14 | Briar Cliff | 1-1 |
| 10/18 | Mt. St. Clair | 3-0 |
| 10/25 | St. Scholast. | 2-1 |
| 10/28 | at Westmar | 1-2(OT) |
| 10/31 | at National | |
| 11/1 | at Bethany | |
| Women's Soccer - 13-2-1 | | |
| 9/4 | Nrthwst.(IA) | 3-0 |
| 9/6 | at Viterbo | 8-4 |
| 9/9 | at Southwest | 2-2 |
| 9/13 | at Martin Luth. | 6-0 |
| 9/20 | Nrthwst.(MN) | 8-0 |
| 9/26 | Kansas Wesl. | 10-0 |
| 9/27 | Nebr. Wesl. | 1-2 |
| 9/30 | at Briar Cliff | 3-2(OT) |
| 10/2 | at Bellevue | 2-0 |
| 10/4 | Univ. Of Mary | 4-3 |
| 10/7 | Martin Luth. | 5-0 |
| 10/11 | at Doane | 0-2 |
| 10/15 | Westmar | 1-0(OT) |
| 10/18 | Mt. St. Clair | 1-0 |
| 10/25 | St. Scholast. | 2-0 |
| 10/29 | at Nrthwst.(IA) | 5-2 |
| 10/31 | at National | |
| 11/1 | at Bethany | |

Griend was ninth coming in at 20:47. She was followed by Tabitha Vander Wilt in 21:03 at tenth. Coming in twelfth at 21:13 was Cathy Palmer. Julie Huizenga came in at 21:22 in fourteenth place.

"Julie Huizenga had a great run to pack it in for the women," Goheen said. "Dakota State will be the team to beat at conference," said Goheen. "But we're not conceding anything."

The conference meet is this Saturday at Spencer Park in Sioux Falls. The women will run at 11:00a.m., followed by the men at 11:45.

Blades riding a roller coaster

by **Martin Dam**
Hockey Guy

In case you've been hiding under a rock for the last few weeks, The Hockey Guy is back to keep you up to date on the latest news concerning your very own Dordt Blades.

The past two weeks have been the best of both worlds for the crew. After a pair of exciting, emotional victories against defending champion Northern State, the guys dropped a pair of disappointing exhibition losses to upstart Mankota State.

Two weeks ago, the action was coming from nearby Luverne, as Dordt looked to establish themselves against the best. And make no mistake, NSU is still the team to beat in the chase for the championship.

Friday night, the team earned a tough 3-2 win. Jay Visser scored twice and Ben Saarloos netted the winner on a crazy scramble in front the Wolf net.

On Saturday, Dordt won again 5-4. Rookie Josh Vande Kraats connected on a pair of highlight rushes with winger Greg Van Leeuwen. Saarloos pocketed two and Rich Vyn stuck the winner up over the shoulders of a tough NSU goalie to bring home the victory. Particularly effective on the ice was Van Leeuwen, who has been using the 20 extra pounds he's gained since

freshman year to establish himself as a physical presence in addition to a scoring threat.

Last weekend things were rougher, as former Blade Jeremy Hendrickson led first year Mankota State to Worthington. Despite strong goaltending from St. Catherine's own Josh Van Dyke and regular goalie Tim Hoogland, the guys dropped a 6-5 decision. On Saturday, things got worse, as the Blades never recovered from a horrible first period, where they allowed five goals and went on to lose 9-5.

The Blades were definitely not at their best against Mankota State, and they will be looking to get their A-game back this weekend in Marshall. They are back home the week after that against Iowa State University.

The Mankota games were also the last of the semester for player-coach Jeremy Huygen. He had to take the rest of the semester off and return to Ontario in order to help out with the



Matt Nelson

Ben Saarloos and his NSU opponent watch the puck roll out of the faceoff.

family farm. Although his leadership will certainly be missed, the up-side is that he will now likely return in the spring to finish his degree, which means he'll likely be in uniform come play-off time. In the mean-time, our prayers are with him and his family.

Defenders pick up steam, 9-4-2 on year

By **Todd Lee**
Sports Writer

The mens soccer team picked up two victories since last issue. Dordt started out by pounding Mt. St. Clair in a commanding 3-0 victory. Then the Defenders topped St. Scholastica 2-1.

Dordt 3, Mt. St. Clair 0

Continuing his strong play this season, Jon Pelster had two goals against Mt. St. Clair. Coach Elgersma was looking for upperclassman leadership this year and Pelster has answered the bell. Levi Faber was given credit for the third goal when he booted a corner kick off the Mt. St. Clair players and it caromed into their own net.

In addition to a powerful offense the defender defense stifled Mt. St. Clair handing them a shutout.

Dordt 2, St. Scholastica 1

In the other game, St. Scholastica traveled to Sioux Center for a battle with the Defenders. The game was played on a blustery afternoon that produced a few snowflakes, and also saw freshman Wes Jackson step up for Dordt with two goals. Coach Elgersma was very happy with the play he received from Jackson.

St. Scholastica got in one goal, but it was not enough as the Defenders prevailed 2-1. The men played excellent in both games and really earned each of the respective wins.

Editor's Note:

The men played at Westmar Tuesday afternoon. Dordt had one goal called off on a questionable off-sides call. On another take-down play, the Eagles received a yellow card when a red card is called for by soccer rules. After all that, the first half ended scoreless.

Westmar snuck in a score in the second stanza to take the lead. Scott Mickelson fired in the equalizer with :35 seconds left in regulation to send the game into overtime. But the Eagles took the win in the extra session with a goal about ten minutes into the sudden-death overtime.

The Defenders' record stands at 9-4-2 with just two matches left this season. They play at National Friday and then close the regular season at Bethany on Saturday.

Westmar to drop out of conference, literally

by **James De Boer**
Sports Editor

If you haven't heard the rumblings lately, Westmar University will close next month. Barring someone who is willing to put in a significant amount of money, the closing will be a fact of the past.

What will be left for the future, as far as the sports world, will be what happens within the South Dakota-Iowa Conference.

Westmar plans to accelerate this semester and draw it to a close on Nov. 21, and then close the school. That would mean no basketball, no baseball and no softball.

But Westmar closing means more than just a game or two less on the schedule. Westmar closing means dropping some sports below conference status.

To be considered a conference sport, a conference must have at least six schools with the sport on

the varsity level. In most sports in the NAIA, a conference winner gets an automatic bid to the post-season tournament. In some sports, such as basketball, the automatic bid is for the national tourney, and in other sports, such as volleyball, the bid is for the regional tourney.

Teams in a sport that doesn't qualify as a conference sport can still continue in postseason play, but they must first go into a independents tourney with other independents from the region. This is actually how Dordt's soccer teams have been playing for the last few years.

But one of the downsides of independent tourneys is they often include long driving distances. The soccer teams play against teams from as far away as Bismarck, N.D.

If and when Westmar does close, it will leave a significant hole in three sports. For the volleyball and basketball fans, no

need to worry—the South Dakota-Iowa Conference is at full strength (eight teams without the Eagles.)

But the real problems are created in golf, baseball and softball. Paired with Huron University recently dropping softball, the women ballplayers are down to four teams.

Huron also dropped baseball, and with Westmar out of the picture, baseball slips to five teams. Golf would also slide below the conference sport level at five teams.

One of the options already available for the South Dakota-Iowa Conference is Briar Cliff. The Sioux City school quickly petitioned to be added to the conference. A committee has been appointed to look into the possibility of allowing Briar Cliff to join. However, in addition to some political problems, adding the Chargers will not replenish all the teams lost without Westmar.

Then there's the fall sports. Men and women's soccer are the only Eagle sports that would affect Dordt. Both are solid teams and, despite rumblings among opposing teams, it looks like both Eagle teams will be allowed to play through the postseason.

Besides the committee looking at Briar Cliff, nothing has been done as yet. That committee will report to the conference's President's Council in mid-November, and action will be taken at that time.

Is there something you would like to read about concerning sports?

(This goes beyond scores and schedules.)

Send any ideas to
diamond@dordt.edu

BASKETBALL
is right around the corner!

The men play Pella Windows in an exhibition game Friday night at the Dordt Gymnasium.

The regular season starts in two weeks.

The Defenders host Bellevue Wednesday, Nov. 12.

The Lady Defenders open at Northwestern Saturday, Nov. 15.

Previews of both teams will be included in the next issue of the Diamond.

SHAMAR adopts a highway

by Dirk Zwart
Columnist

In a move to more actively promote the club's role in stewardship, SHAMAR decided to get involved in the Adopt-a-Highway program. A two-mile stretch of Highway 75 just a few miles south of Sioux Center will soon bear the name SHAMAR - Dordt Earthkeepers. The club was recently granted adoption of a portion of the highway stretching from Sioux Center to Million Dollar Corner and Highway 10.

Adopting a portion of a highway involves more than just getting some free advertising on a sign. The state of Iowa

requires that the sponsoring group removes litter at least twice a year and follows certain safety guidelines while working alongside traffic.

The Dordt College Earthkeeping Club (SHAMAR) organized a litter pick-up just this past weekend. Nine students and one faculty member showed up to help the club fulfill its first commitment to the Adopt-a-Highway program. It only took three hours for the two crews to walk and pick up the trash along the club's adopted section.

Ten large garbage bags of litter and three bags of recyclables or returnable cans and bottles were picked up.

Participants were amazed at the amount of garbage that Sioux Center residents throw out of their car. Most of the trash came from fast food restaurants or discards such as oil jugs from motorists and farmers alike.

The cold weather did not make the task easy, but the promise of hot chocolate and all-you-can-eat cookies kept participants moving forward. SHAMAR would like to encourage more students and clubs to help collect litter in the spring. Senior Missy Dykstra, a participant in the litter pick-up, said "I was glad to help and do something that made a difference."

Writers visit poetry workshop in Des Moines

by Paula Treick
Freelance Editor

At four a.m. Saturday the 25th of October, Dr. Mike Vanden Bosch, senior Laryn Bakker, and I collapsed into a minivan and, braving ominous weather forecasts, headed to Des Moines, Iowa for the Iowa Poetry Association's Fall Workshop.

Held in a Wesleyan United Methodist Church, the members of the Iowa Poetry Association assembled beneath a larger-than-life tile mosaic of Jesus at the Temple. Each poet who participated was required to submit poems in progress weeks before the actual date of the conference. In all, 61 Iowa poets submitted entries.

All poems were read by Louise Opheim and Dave Stokesbary of the Iowa Poetry

Association, and were critiqued by Taiyon Coleman, a graduate student at the University of Iowa, and Rustin Larson, a veteran Iowan poet. Following the reading and critiquing, other members of the association contributed comments to help the poets.

The Iowa Poetry Association is responsible every year for the printing of Lyrical Iowa, an annual poetry publication featuring the work of Iowa's finest poets. Last year, five Dordt students—Laryn Bakker, Sarah Bliss, Kate Dekker, Renee Hoekstra, and Jessica Vanderwerff—placed or were honorably mentioned in Lyrical Iowa.

A student poetry reading will be held on November 9 in C160. Come, listen, enjoy and be inspired.

Task force seeks to integrate service and curriculum with community projects

By Monica Bierma
Staff Reporter

A task force led by Willis Alberda is bringing Service-Learning to Dordt College. Service-Learning integrates service into the curriculum, enhancing education with community-based projects.

Architecture students at Yale University, one of many schools involved in Service-Learning, take a class in urban planning. As a result of the course, recommendations for improvement are made to the neighborhoods.

Current student organizations at Dordt that

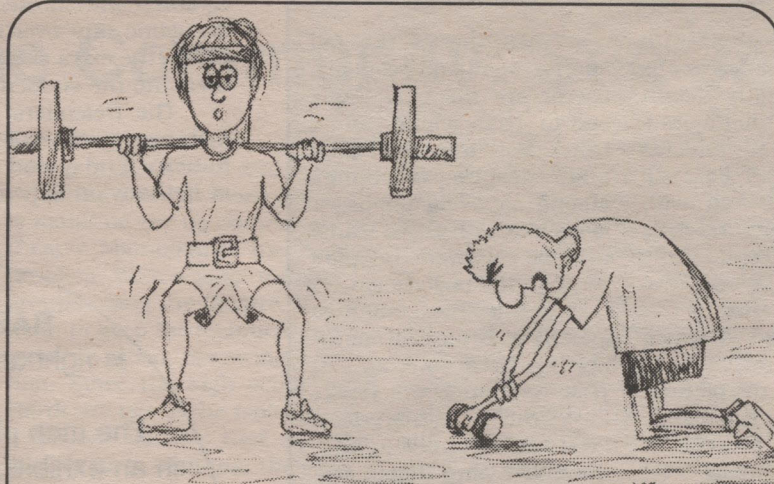
would be involved with Service-Learning include PLIA, AMOR and the Community Outreach Program. Others interested in a Service-Learning project should discuss ideas with a student organization, an instructor or with Alberda. Potential programs could combine the aspects of service and learning in an individual studies course or develop such a project in connection with another course.

Dordt is one of five colleges that has been awarded the Lilly Foundation Grant. This grant is designed to assist in the development of Service-Learning Projects.

A.D.
by Jon Moss



Level V:
Too many unpaid parking tickets



A bad day in the weight room.
by Seth Koerner



If Ag courses included speeches
by Justin Westerhof



HEROboy
the legend continues



HEROboy travelled from the edge of one clique to another, searching for acceptance. He didn't find it.

He took to slinking in dark alleys where he wouldn't frighten small children or their parents.

(sniff) What kind of a hero AM I?

RECYCLING

So began a period of deep depression in his career... TO BE CONTINUED

REVIEWS



CONCERT REVIEW

An Evening With Foo

by James Van Dyk
Art Critic

At 3 o'clock on Thursday, October 23, we took off. I took up shotgun in Sean's Trooper, and we were Minneapolis bound. Why make the 4 hour+ journey during the week? The Foo Fighters. They were playing in a sweet arena for one time only, and there was no way that we'd pass this up. I am still kicking myself for missing Rage Against the Machine, but that is a whole other column. The opening act was Talk Show. That is to say, STP without Scott Weiland and with some other singer. They put on a decent show. The highlight was definitely the guitarist who did some wicked slide soloing on every song. They ended their set with STP's "Trippin' on a Hole in a

Paper Heart". It was a real crowd pleaser, but the guy behind me felt it was necessary to let everyone know that he was not having a good time.

After Talk Show had finished, Sean and I muscled our way through the hordes of teenagers. You could almost smell the angst. We got up front and stayed up front. The Foo Fighters opened their show with a noise jam featuring both Dave Grohl and Taylor Hawkins on drums. It got the desired audience response, and I was soon being kicked in the head by 13-year-old bodysurfers. The show was one fast, hard-hitting song after the next. The drumming was unbelievable. As Sean put it, "Taylor Hawkins was a tour de force." What made it so good was that it wasn't just a concert but it was also a show. The band members were always interacting with one another on stage, unlike Talk Show who just stayed in one place for 45 minutes. The Foo Fighters played all their popular songs including "Big Me", "Monkey Wrench" and "Everlong." The best song of the night by far, however, was "Weenie Beenie."

The whole evening was worth the 8 hours of driving that was required, and I would see these guys again in a heartbeat. It might not be a textbook review ending, but it's true.

VIDEO REVIEW

Wallance & Gromit: A Close Shave

by Robert L. Reltsma
Art Critic

If you have yet to be acquainted with Nick Park's Wallace and Gromit, you should probably get to know them

as quickly as you possibly can.

Nick Park is an extraordinary clay-mation artist who has won the Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film on two separate occasions for his work on his original characters, Wallace and Gromit.

Wallace and Gromit live in England. Wallace is an eccentric inventor; Gromit is his level-headed and highly intelligent dog.

In "A Close Shave," Wallace and Gromit find themselves mized up with a sheep rustler who ends up framing Gromit for his crimes. An interesting sub-plot involves Wallace and a beautiful woman named Wendolene, a proprietor of a wool shop with ties to the rustler.

A wild chase, a jailbreak and several unexpected twists and turns bring Wallace and Gromit to a solution to the mystery behind the disappearing sheep.

Wallance and Gromit are yet another great example of delightful British comedy. If you can't find "A Close Shave" in one of the many local video stores, it can be found at Wal-mart for as much as you'd pay for renting the film and keeping it a week past due. It's only a half-hour long, so it won't take up too much of your weekend.

EXHIBIT REVIEW

Raku Pottery Exhibit

by Kirstin Vander Glessen
Art Critic

Raku (pronounced like raccoon without the 'n') pottery is not a familiar art form to most people, but for Sioux Falls artist Mary Selvig, it is the current form of choice.

On display in the gallery recently

was a pottery exhibit called "Mind, Hand, and Spirit," which contained 13 pots from Selvig's collection. An artist's statement on the wall explained the title: "We are the species given minds with the capacity for abstraction, hands with the ability to manufacture and manipulate tools, and spirits with the capacity for hope."

As for the exhibit itself, the arrangement was, according to Professor Joanne Alberda, a well-thought, elegant approach. "We set it up in a very Oriental way so the lights and shadows were a very important part of the viewing experience," said Alberda. The nature of the arrangement alluded to a common characteristic of Selvig's pieces which is "the mark of the fire," a very Oriental idea.

Another noticeable characteristic of Selvig's display was the consistent use of earth tones. "She likes a very earthy look," said Alberda. "She doesn't go for all the flashy glazes." One of the more interesting pieces, however, was a pot coated on the inside with bronze leafing, a technique used by Selvig that makes the pot appear to glow.

Also notable was that all of Selvig's pots are hand-built, not thrown on a wheel. "I responded to her because I also prefer hand-building to the wheel," said Alberda, adding that she thinks it allows for more variety.

Alberda also enjoyed the texture of Selvig's work. On the outside of the pots, Selvig has an interesting method of texture. She uses things like fabric printing tools and sea shells to achieve distinct designs, but she also leaves some plain areas that lend a nice contrast to the piece.

Overall, Selvig "has a unique approach to pottery," said Alberda. Selvig held a workshop last Friday to demonstrate this approach, in which she used Dordt's raku kiln to display the process.

Dordt Defenders of Life to host costume party

by Jill Van Voorst
Staff Reporter

There are many things you could do on October 31st. You could smash pumpkins or chase cats and in doing so run the risk of being arrested. You could put on a silly costume and go all over town saying, "Trick or treat!" to complete strangers. Perhaps you like the costume idea, but maybe the rest doesn't sound too appealing. The Dordt Defenders of Life (DDL) would like to offer you a solution. Attend the costume party to be held in the gym that evening.

The costume party will include various team games, such as eating donuts off a string. The games will be announced and whomever wishes to participate may go. There will also be a contest for the best costume, so be

creative! The judges have been selected from the faculty and are eagerly waiting to see how original Dordt students can be. There will be free food and drinks and there are lots of prizes to be won, including gift certificates for pizzas, tacos, coffee, and ice cream from local businesses. There are even a few CD's available as prizes.

A small fee will be required for entry. The cost is two dollars for those in costume and three dollars for those who choose not to dress up. This fee goes to the activities of the DDL, which is always open to those who are interested.

The fee goes to the DDL, a Dordt pro-life club that helps battle abortion through local efforts. This month, a group of students helped Bethany Christian Services of Orange City with their annual phone-a-thon. Other projects will be announced as they are

received. Such projects may include filing papers or actively boycotting a clinic.

The money raised by the costume party will be directed to a fund set apart for DDL's trip to Washington D.C. in January, where the annual Right to Life march will be held. January marks the 25th anniversary of the Roe-vs.-Wade decision, the court case that made abortions legal. DDL would like to send people on this trip for a minimal cost. The trip is not limited to those specifically in the group, so if you would like more information contact Lisa Oschner or Kevin Maas.

The costume party is coming up really fast. Get your outfit ready and plan to have a good time. Who knows? You might have so much fun, you'll scare yourself!

-Renae's-

Renae Visscher, Owner/Stylist

-Greta Van Zee, Stylist-
-Julie Ten Napel, Stylist-
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Are Cross-Cultural Programs Worthwhile?

by Lydia Boer
Guest Reporter

Are cross-cultural programs worthwhile or just a waste of time and money? On November 10 and 11, Dordt students and faculty will have the chance to hear about this from David Smith of Nottingham, England who will visit Dordt. He will explain if and why taking foreign language courses and cross-cultural experiences are beneficial activities for students.

At present, Dordt's most successful cross-cultural program is the Netherlandic SPICE program, headed by Dr. Kase Boot. The most important goal of the program is to raise awareness, according to Boot.

President Zylstra agrees with Dr. Boot and says, "American people are self-sufficient because America is such a big country that they don't even look across the borders."

The mission statement of Dordt's Foreign Language Department declares that understanding and appreciation of other language groups and cultures is one of its most important goals: "Christians must learn to appreciate how other people have responded to God's commands of stewardship and love as expressed in their culture."

Junior Julia van Oord went to the Netherlands for a

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Dr. K.J. Boot, Director
Netherlandic-SPICE
Dordt College

Sioux Center, Iowa 51250
E-mail: kboot@dordt.edu
Call collect (712) 722-6263

Deadline: November 1, 1997

semester last year. "Everybody should go on a cross-cultural program to experience a new culture, to see how things are done in different ways and to compare those things to your own culture," she said.

Students can hear more about the benefits of cross-cultural programs on November 10 and 11; do not miss it!

Use rises to approximately 600 people during the week at the Rec Complex

by Cherilyn Dykstra
Guest Reporter

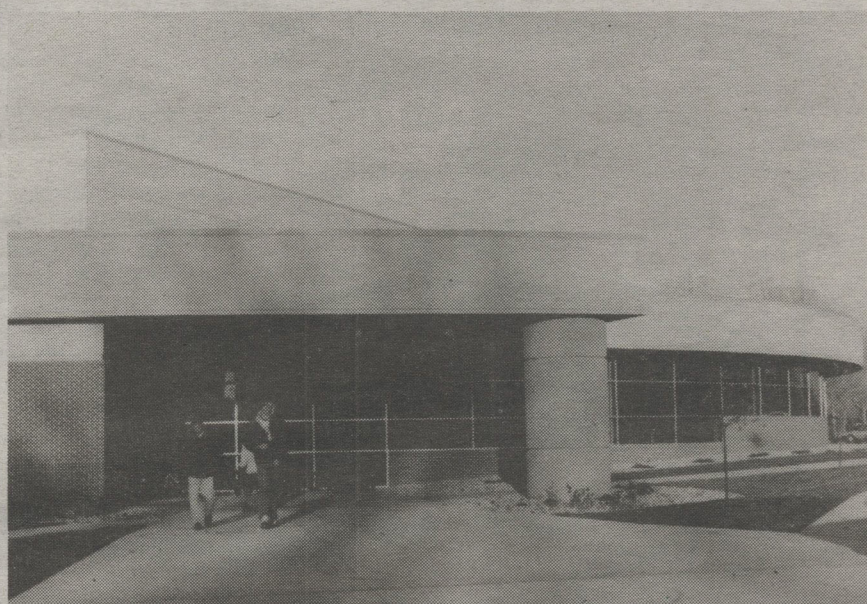
People are letting the sweat fly at the new Dordt College Recreation Complex from Monday to Thursday. Students, faculty, staff and community members are taking advantage of the brand new recreation facilities. The recreation complex's weight room, exercise room and racquetball courts have seen the most use since the opening in August.

An average of 600 people use the complex from Monday to Thursday, and weekend use of the recreation complex is only slightly lower.

Over 180 memberships have been sold to community members. The memberships are sold as family, single or morning walking memberships. Glen Bouma, recreation complex coordinator, expects the usage to increase once the weather turns colder.

Prime usage occurs from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Due to high demand, the recreation complex has increased its availability of the weight and exercise rooms in order to accommodate the large number of people who want to use the equipment.

According to Bouma, the weight and exercise rooms and the racquetball courts are getting consistently high usage, but he expects the other areas like the track and golf room to have increased usage once the snow starts to fly.



Laura De Jong

The Rec Center draws students, faculty and community members for participation in a variety of activities.

The recreation complex's new step aerobics classes have just started. Over 45 punch cards have been sold and each aerobic session is averaging 20 to 25 people. If attendance of step aerobics continues to rise, additional classes will be added.

The recreation complex is functioning very well according to Bouma. He said only a few small things still need to be completed by subcontractors. Most of the finishing touches will be completed during breaks, so that the recreation complex will continually be accessible to students.

Students are positive about the new recreation complex. Seniors Shad Van Dyken and Kristi Clapp both appreciate the new weight and exercise rooms. They said they like everything

about the rooms, especially compared to the facilities that were available last year. They said the only downside is the fact that they will only be able to use the recreation complex for one year.

Students aren't the only ones who are taking advantage of the multi-million dollar complex. Professor Arnold Koekoek said he really enjoys the weight room. He likes the machines that target certain muscles groups and the fact that the weight room is large enough that many people can work out at the same time.

With the recreation complex finally open, students, faculty, staff and community members are happy to take advantage of its availability.

Hug-a-Linguist Days feature Ericksons' experiences in translating

by Hannah Atwood
Staff Reporter

Most students who have taken a language class at Dordt within the last twenty-six years are familiar with the annual event known as Hug-A-Linguist Days. The goal of this event, according to its organizer and founder, Case Boot (professor of Linguistics at Dordt College), is to "expose the students to new experiences" with unfamiliar cultures, sights and sounds, and to introduce new ways to witness and learn through the use of language.

This three-day event has been held for all but two of the last twenty-six years, and each time it has brought to

Dordt members of the Christian community who have been involved in translation work through Wycliffe Bible Translators. For this year's event, held October 22, 23 and 24, the guest translators were Lee and Laurinda Erickson. They have been involved with Wycliffe since 1984 and, since 1986, have been serving in Papua New Guinea, on New Ireland Island. For ten years they have been translating the Word of God there into the language of the native Nochi people.

Working once again in the United States, the Ericksons agreed to come to this year's Hug-A-Linguist Days to share their experiences with the students at Dordt College. In a series of nine differ-

ent sessions consisting of videos, discussions and demonstrations, the Ericksons gave the Dordt community a small taste of the impact Christians can have in the world by bringing the Word of God to new languages and cultures.

"Westerners usually know very little about other cultures," says Boot, "... but I believe there is no such thing as 'primitive' culture. ... Students need to realize that the world is becoming more and more a global village and that there are many opportunities abroad for all kinds of people. ... We want [Hug-A-Linguist Days] to help students learn to think more globally and to start thinking about possible careers abroad."

As in the past, the Linguistics and

foreign language faculty asked their students to attend three of the nine sessions during this event, as part of the assigned work for their classes. But this year's Hug-A-Linguist Days event was far from being just work; it was an opportunity to experience the need and the value of learning about and getting involved in new cultures and languages throughout the world. And hopefully, if this year's event served its purpose, Hug-A-Linguist Days gave Dordt students a closer look into the wealth and variety of unfamiliar cultures, and it opened up a whole new realm of possibilities for those students as Christians in the world.